

**A-Level Overview Year 1: Government and Politics**

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| Term | Teacher: Miss Mather | Key Skills / PSAs / Deadlines |
| 1 | **UK (Paper 1)**  **Democracy and participation – 20 hours**   * Current systems of representative democracy and direct democracy * Wider franchise and debates over suffrage * Pressure groups and other influences * Rights   **Electoral systems – 15 hours**   * Different electoral systems * Referendums sand how they are used * Electoral systems analysis | Read relevant textbook pages  Keep notes up to date  Regular essay practise  Weekly homework deadlines |
| 2 | **UK (Paper 1)**  **UK Political Parties – 20 hours**   * Conservative Party * Labour Party * Liberal Democrats * Emerging and minor UK Political parties * Current/recent policies   **Voting behaviour and the media – 15 hours**   * Class voting and other social factors influencing voting patterns * Case studies of three key general elections * Influence of the media | Read relevant textbook pages  Keep notes up to date  Regular essay practise  Weekly homework deadlines  Paper One mock (partial) |
| 3 | **UK (Paper 2)**  **The UK Constitution - 15 hours**   * Nature and sources of the UK constitution * Reforms since 1997 * Role and powers of devolved bodies and impact of devolution * Debates on further reforms   **Prime Minister and Cabinet – 20 hours**   * Structure, role and powers of the Executive * Ministerial responsibility * Relationship between Prime Minister and Cabinet | Read relevant textbook pages  Keep notes up to date  Regular essay practise  Weekly homework deadlines |
| 4 | **UK (Paper 2) Parliament – 15 hours**   * Structure of Commons and Lords * Comparative powers of Commons and Lords * Legislative process * Relationship between Parliament and Executive   **Relations between institutions – 20 hours**   * Supreme Court and interactions with legislative process * Aims, role and impact of the EU * Location of sovereignty in the UK system | Read relevant textbook pages  Keep notes up to date  Regular essay practise  Weekly homework deadlines  Paper Two mock (partial) |
| 5 | **Political Ideas (Papers 1 & 2)**  **Liberalism – 15 hours**   * Core ideas and principles – how they relate to human nature, the state, society and economy * Tensions between classical and modern liberalism * Ideas of key thinkers – Locke, Wollstonecraft, Mill, Rawls, Friedan   **Conservatism – 15 hours**   * Core ideas and principles – how they relate to human nature, the state, society and economy * Tensions between traditional, One Nation and New Right ideas * Ideas of key thinkers – Hobbes, Burke, Rand, Oakeshott, Nozick | Read relevant textbook pages  Keep notes up to date  Regular essay practise  Weekly homework deadlines |
| 6 | **Political Ideas (Papers 1 & 2)**  **Socialism – 15 hours**   * Core ideas and principles - how they relate to human nature, the state, society and economy * Tensions between revolutionary, social democracy and the Third Way * Ideas of key thinkers – Marx, Engels, Webb, Luxemburg, Crosland, Giddens   **Optional Idea – 15 hours**   * Core ideas, principles and tensions of either Nationalism, Multiculturalism, Feminism, Anarchism or Ecologism. | Read relevant textbook pages  Keep notes up to date  Regular essay practise  Weekly homework deadlines  Full Paper One and Two mocks |



**A-Level Overview Year 2: Government and Politics**

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| Term | Teacher: Miss Mather | Key Skills / PSAs / Deadlines |
| 1 | **US (Paper 3)**  **US Constitution and federalism – 20 hours**   * Nature and principles of the US Constitution * Interpretations and debates * *Comparisons to UK: Similarities and differences between each constitution, their nature, sources, provisions, separation of powers, checks and balances*   **US presidency – 15 hours**   * Formal, constitutional sources of presidential power and their use * Informal sources of presidential power and their use * Roles and powers of the presidency * Interpretation and debates of the US presidency * *Comparisons to the UK: Comparison of roles, powers and limitations of the President and Prime Minister, extent of accountability to legislature.* | Read relevant textbook pages  Keep notes up to date  Regular essay practise  Weekly homework deadlines |
| 2 | **US (Paper 3)**  **Electoral systems – 15 hours**   * Presidential elections and their significance * Campaign finance * Debates surrounding elections including Electoral College and incumbency   **Political parties – 10 hours**   * Key ideas and principles of the Democratic and Republican parties * Changing significance of the parties * Current conflicts and influences within the parties * Groups of supporters for each party * Debates surrounding party unity, party policy and voting groups   **Pressure Groups – 10 hours**   * Significance, resources, and tactics * Debates on impact on interest groups on democracy   *Comparisons to the UK: nature of party system, degree of unity within parties, policies, campaign finance, methods and influence of pressure groups.* | Read relevant textbook pages  Keep notes up to date  Regular essay practise  Weekly homework deadlines  Paper 3 – Mid-Unit Mock |
| 3 | **US (Paper 3)**  **US Supreme Court – 20 hours**   * Nature and role of Supreme Court * Appointment process for the Supreme Court * Public policy role * Protection of rights and civil liberties   **Civil rights – 5 hours**   * Race and rights in contemporary US politics   *Comparisons to the UK: the basis for their power, impact on government and policy, relative independence of each Court, effectiveness of rights protection, impact and effectiveness of interest groups in protecting rights.* | Read relevant textbook pages  Keep notes up to date  Regular essay practise  Weekly homework deadlines |
| 4 | **US (Paper 3)**  **US Congress – 15 hours**   * Structure and functions of Congress * Interpretations and debates around Congress * *Comparisons to the UK: membership of each House, powers, relationship between the two houses of each system*   **Federalism – 5 hours**   * Main characteristics of federalism * Debates surrounding changes to federalism in the US. * *Comparisons to the UK: How far the UK model of devolution parallels the US federal system.* | Read relevant textbook pages  Keep notes up to date  Regular essay practise  Weekly homework deadlines  Paper 3 –Full Mock |
| 5 | **Revision** | Revision  Regular essay practice  Mock examinations |
| 6 | **Examination** |  |